

Listing of the claims:

Claims 1 - 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (previously added)

A method of detecting the presence of *E. coli* and/or other coliforms in a sample of interest comprising the steps of:

- (1) preparing a medium containing an indicator which is a galactoside or a glucuronide, and Cefsulodin,
- (2) applying a portion of said sample to the medium prepared in step (1),
- (3) incubating the product of step (2) for a time sufficient to cause evidence of growth of *E. coli* and/or other coliforms as presented by color change and/or fluorescence, and
- (4) observing the product of step (3) for color changes or fluorescence to detect the presence or absence of *E. coli* and/or other coliforms.

Claim 12 (previously added)

The method of claim 11 wherein the medium prepared in step (1) is in a container.

Claim 13 (currently amended)

The method of claim ~~11~~ 12 wherein the container is a tube, ~~bag, bottle, flask,~~
Petri dish, microtiter plate or spot plate.

Claim 14 (previously added)

The method of claim 11 wherein the Cefsulodin is present in the medium prepared in step (1) at a concentration of 1 mg/L to 25 mg/L.

Claim 15 (previously added)

The method of claim 11 wherein said sample is applied to said medium using a needle, stick, swab or loop.

Claim 16 (previously added)

The method of claim 1 wherein, in step (1) said medium is applied to a pad, membrane filter or filter paper before application of said sample in step (2).

Claim 17 (previously added)

The method of claim 1 wherein, in step (1), there is also added a solidifying agent.

Claim 18 (previously added)

The method of claim 11 wherein said sample is water.

Claim 19 (previously added)

The method of claim 1 wherein the sample is known or unknown bacteria.

Comments

The amendment is provided in response to the suggestion of Examiner Joike in the telephonic interview of June 27, 2006. Attached is a Terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent 6,670,145.

It is urged that the claims are not in condition for allowance. Allowance of the claims as now presented is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Glenna Hendricks".

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